

**Judiciary Committee
Public Hearing**

March 24, 2009

Testimony of Theresa C. Lantz, Commissioner, Department of Correction

Good afternoon, Senator McDonald, Representative Lawlor and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee. I am Theresa Lantz, Commissioner for the Department of Correction and submit this testimony on the following bill:

Raised Bill No. 6684 An Act Establishing a Correctional Staff Health and Safety Subcommittee of the Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission

The Department supports the establishment of a correctional staff health and safety subcommittee within the Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission with an amendment. If the intent is to establish a subcommittee that addresses health and safety issues for all correctional staff, the language must be amended to provide an opportunity for a representative from each bargaining unit/labor organization that represents hazardous duty staff to be a member of the subcommittee.

I would suggest that lines 58 be amended to read as follows: [three] labor organizations representing [correction officer] hazardous duty staff.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's views on Raised Bill No. 6684.